Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SY-05 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02

PRS-01 SCCT-01 SS-15 NSC-05 /049 W ----- 021269

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2829 INFO USIA WASHDC

UNCLAS MOSCOW 10756

USIA FOR IEU, IBS

E.O. 11652 N/A TAGS: PINS, UR

SUBJ: EMBASSY ENTRANCE STRUGGLE BETWEEN MILITIAMEN AND UNIDENTIFIED MAN

REF: STATE 179996

- 1. AT 10:40 A.M. JULY TWENTY-NINE, EMBOFF LEAVING EMBASSY THROUGH TUNNEL FROM COURTYARD TO ULITSA CHAIKOVSKOGO SAW TWO MILITIAMEN STRUGGLING WITH AN UNIDENTIFIED MAN ON THE SIDEWALK IN FRONT OF THE EMBASSY. A THIRD MILITIAMAN ARRIVED AND THE STRUGGLE RESULTED IN THE UNIDENTIFIED MAN FALLING TO THE GROUND UPON WHICH THE THIRD MILITIMAN CALLED FOR HELP AND A FOURTH MILITIMAN ARRIVED. EMBOFF STOPPED CAR HE WAS IN AND RAN TO CONSULAR SECTION WHICH LOCATED IMMEDIATELY OFF TUNNEL, AND SUMMONED A CONSULAR OFFICER, BUT UNIDENTIFIED MAN WAS NOT THERE UPON RETURN. ABOVE SCENE ALSO WITNESSED BY WIFE OF ANOTHER EMBOFF FROM BEHIND AUTOMOBILE STOPPED IN TUNNEL. NEITHER EMBOFF NOR WIFE KNEW IDENTITY OF MAN STRUGGLING WITH MILITIAMEN OR CIRCUMSTANCES LEADING TO THE STRUGGLE.
- 2. UPI CORRESPONDENT WALLACE LATER INTERVIEWED EMBOFF WHO HAD WITNESSED INCIDENT, AND EMBOFF GAVE STRAIGHTFORWARD ACCOUNT OF WHAT HE HAD SEEN. WALLACE ALSO QUESTIONED UNCLASSIFIED

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CONSOFF RE GENERAL PROBLEM OF ACCESS TO EMBASSY, ASKING

SPECIFICALLY IF OTHER COMPARABLE INCIDENTS HAD OCCURRED. CONSOFF REPLIED HE HAD NOT PERSONALLY WITNESSED ABOVE INCIDENT, BUT THAT ACCESS TO EMBASSY WAS LONG-STANDING PROBLEM, ANDTHAT PRIOR INCIDENTS IN WHICH NUMEROUS MILITIAMEN FORCIBLY REMOVED PERSONS FROM AREAS IMMEDIATELY IN FRONT OF EMBASSY WERE A MATTER OF RECORD. WALLACE SAID HE "MIGHT" FILE STORY ON ACCESS PROBLEM AS RESULT OF APPARENTLY SERIOUS INCIDENT OCCURRING DURING CSCE SUMMIT. IN THESE AND SUBSEQUENT INQUIRIES BY REUTERS AND UPI, EMBASSY HAS INDICATED THAT THERE IS NOT SUFFICIENT EVIDENCE TO STATE THAT THE UNIDENTIFIED MAN WAS TRYING TO ENTER THE EMBASSY AND THAT NO ACTION IS CONTEMPLATED BY THE EMBASSY.

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Message Attributes

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